

b.) Remarks

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended in order to recite the present invention with the specificity required by statute. Additionally, Claim 4 is amended to maintain its dependency. As discussed below, no new matter has been added.

Claims 5-10 are allowed and claims 2-4 are indicated as reciting subject matter which is patentable and unobvious over the prior art. However, Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Morimoto (European Patent Application EP 0 815 931), in view of Daley (U.S. Patent No. 3,501,097), both newly cited, for the reasons noted.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Initially, however, the undersigned wishes to gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's assistance and cooperation in expediting the prosecution of this application by examining separately the subject matter of Applicants' dependent claims.

In view of that effort and the Examiner's indication, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite the features of allowable claim 4, and to amend claim 2 to be in independent form. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 is mooted.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the claims are now in allowable condition. Accordingly, allowance of this application and prompt passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

Claims 1-10 remain presented for continued prosecution.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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